



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC # **067-2015**

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: February 12, 2015

SUBJECT: Resolution Proposed by the Human Right Committee

The purpose of this Letter to Commission (LTC) is to inform the Commission of a resolution proposed by the Human Rights Committee.

MOTION: Resolution expressing the city of Miami Beach Human Rights Committee's recommendation to the City Commission to consider and pass a comprehensive plan to address human trafficking within the city of Miami Beach.

Moved by: Walker Burttschell

Seconded by: Monica Harvey

Passes by: Vote 7-0

Attachment

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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE'S
RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COMMISSION TO CONSIDER AND PASS A
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO ADDRESS HUMAN TRAFFICKING WITHIN THE CITY OF MIAMI
BEACH**

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach Human Rights Committee wishes to enhance the public welfare by making recommendations to the City Commission to address the issue of human trafficking and to enhance public awareness on the issue; and

WHEREAS, South Florida ranks third in the nation for human trafficking according to the United States Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, MBPD has reported victims as young as twelve years old; and

WHEREAS, victims of both sexes, male and female, have been reported by MBPD; and

WHEREAS, the Committee recommends that MBPD scrutinize all cases involving a "pimp" and prostitute, and handle each as a possible case of human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, by recognizing the immediate dangers that a victim may face, the Committee recommends that the Commission direct the MBPD to designate a specific task force to combat human trafficking, consisting of at least three dedicated police officers and to appropriate such funds that may be deemed necessary to operate said task force effectively; and

WHEREAS, the Committee recommends that the Commission direct the MBPD to document and report local human trafficking statistics to the Commission and to the Committee no less than annually along with recommendations from the Chiefs of Police to better combat human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, the Committee recommends that the Commission direct the MBPD to brief all police officers no less than annually on the subject of human trafficking and local statistics; and

WHEREAS, the Committee recommends that the Commission, with recommendations from MBPD, appropriate the funds necessary in order to provide short-term safe housing for victims of human trafficking and emergency care kits; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Committee recommends that the City, with the assistance of MBPD, host semi-annual training seminars to local hotel management personnel in order to brief these individuals on human trafficking and to foster better communication and relations between these local businesses and MBPD; and the Committee recommends the Commission to support human trafficking educational program(s) in Miami Beach and Miami-Dade County Public Schools.